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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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October 15, 2001

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Mr. Manfred Broska Chief Executive Officer Mr. Herman Aaftink Executive Board Member, North America Winterthur Insurance Co. 2727 Turtle Creek Blvd., Suite 8W Dallas, TX 75218

Dear Mr. Borska and Mr. Aaftink:

Pursuant to its authority under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Government Reform is conducting an oversight investigation of the implementation of the German and Austrian agreements with the United States regarding claims of Holocaust survivors and their heirs. Specifically, the Committee is focusing on the efforts of the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC), which was designated by the agreements to resolve outstanding Holocaust-era claims.

As one of the companies that has agreed to pursue resolution of insurance claims of Holocaust victims through ICHEIC, you possess information that is relevant to the Committee's investigation. Accordingly, the Committee requests that you provide the following information by October 19, 2001:

- The estimated number of policies that Winterthur or its subsidiaries issued to Holocaust 1. victims.
- The number of Holocaust victim policyholder names that Winterthur has provided to 2. ICHEIC and the dates the lists were provided.
- The number of claims filed through ICHEIC that Winterthur has approved. 3.
- The total amount of compensation awarded to victims and the range of the award 4. amounts, from the lowest to the highest.
- The number of claims filed through ICHEIC that Winterthur has denied. Provide a copy 5. of all denials issued to applicants in the United States in the previous six months.

Mr. Manfred Broska Mr. Herman Aaftink October 15, 2001 Page 2

- 6. The steps Winterthur has taken to implement the rulings of the ICHEIC Chairman regarding the approval of claims.
- 7. Copies of any internal audits required of Winterthur in accordance with item 4 of the ICHEIC Memorandum of Understanding.
- 8. An explanation of Winterthur's position on extending the ICHEIC deadline until all member companies have published and disseminated an exhaustive list of policies held by victims to ensure that no viable claims are foreclosed.

Thank you for your cooperation with this urgent request. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Michelle Ash at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,

Dan Burton

Chairman

Henry A. Waxman

Ranking Minority Member